

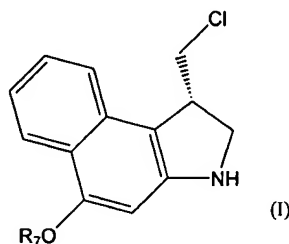
AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

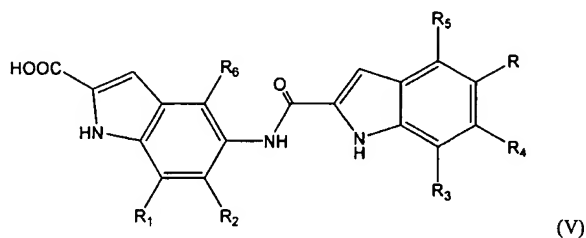
LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-6 **canceled**

7. **(previously presented):** A prodrug formed from a first subunit of formula (I) covalently linked to a second subunit of formula (V) via an amide bond from the secondary amino group of the pyrrole moiety of the first subunit to the C-2 carboxyl of the second subunit, wherein the formula (I) is as follows:



wherein the formulae (V) is as follows:



wherein R represents a moiety that enables linkage of said prodrug to a cell binding agent;

wherein R_1 - R_6 are each independently hydrogen, C_1 - C_3 linear alkyl, methoxy, hydroxyl, primary amino, secondary amino, tertiary amino, or amido;

and wherein R₇ is a piperazino carbamate or a 4-piperidino-piperidino carbamate.

8. **(original):** The prodrug of claim 7, wherein R comprises a thiol or a disulfide bond.
9. **(original):** The prodrug of claim 7, wherein R₁-R₆ are hydrogen.
10. **canceled**
11. **(original):** The prodrug of claim 10, wherein R represents a moiety that enables linkage of the prodrug to a cell binding agent via a disulfide bond.
- 12-24. **canceled**
25. **(previously presented):** A composition comprising the prodrug of claim 7 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
26. **(withdrawn):** A method for treating a subject by inhibiting the growth of cells of or by killing cells of a selected cell population, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof of treatment an effective amount of the composition of claim 6 or 25.
27. **canceled**
28. **(original):** The prodrug of claim 7 wherein said linker comprises polyethylene glycol of the formula $-(O(CH_2)_2)_n-$, wherein n is an integer from 2 to 1000.
29. **(previously presented):** The prodrug of claim 7 wherein R is selected from the group consisting of $NHCO(CH_2)_mSZ$, $NHCOC_6H_4(CH_2)_mSZ$, $NHCOC_6H_4O(CH_2)_mSZ$, $NHCO(CH_2)_m(OCH_2CH_2)_nSZ$, $NHCOC_6H_4(CH_2)_m(OCH_2CH_2)_nSZ$, and $NHCOC_6H_4O(CH_2)_m(OCH_2CH_2)_nSZ$ wherein: Z represents H or SR₈, wherein R₈ represents methyl, linear alkyl, branched alkyl, cyclic alkyl, simple or substituted aryl or heterocyclic

selected from the group consisting of furyl, pyrrolyl, pyridyl, and thiophene, m represents an integer of 1 to 10, and n represents an integer of 4 to 1000.

30. **(previously presented):** The prodrug of claim 7 wherein R is selected from the group consisting of $\text{NHCO}(\text{CH}_2)_m(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_n\text{SZ}$, $\text{NHCOC}_6\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_2)_m(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_n\text{SZ}$, and $\text{NHCOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{O}(\text{CH}_2)_m(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_n\text{SZ}$ wherein: Z represents H or SR_8 , wherein R_8 represents methyl, linear alkyl, branched alkyl, cyclic alkyl, simple or substituted aryl or heterocyclic selected from the group consisting of furyl, pyrrolyl, pyridyl, and thiophene, m represents an integer of 1 to 10, and n represents an integer from 2 to 1000.

31. **(previously presented):** The prodrug of claim 29, wherein R is selected from the group consisting of $\text{NHCO}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{SH}$, $\text{NHCO}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{SSCH}_3$, $\text{NHCO}(\text{CH}_2)_2(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_n\text{SH}$ and $\text{NHCO}(\text{CH}_2)_2(\text{OCH}_2\text{CH}_2)_n\text{SSCH}_3$.